

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Interr al Application No
PCT/US2004/033194

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 C12M3/00 C12N5/00

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
IPC 7 C12M C12N

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the International search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	LU ET AL.: "Diamond-like carbon as culture and medical application" BIO-MEDICAL MATERIALS AND ENGINEERING, vol. 3, no. 4, 1993, pages 223-228, XP008048975 USA the whole document ----- WO 99/25396 A (THE REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN; UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS) 27 May 1999 (1999-05-27) page 2, line 11 - line 23 page 5, line 12 - line 22 page 9, line 1 - page 10, line 23 page 15, line 28 - page 16, line 12 ----- -/-	1-10, 19-23, 38,39
Y		1-10, 19-23, 38,39

Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

Patent family members are listed in annex.

*** Special categories of cited documents :**

- "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- "E" earlier document but published on or after the International filing date
- "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- "T" later document published after the International filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- "&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the International search

28 June 2005

Date of mailing of the International search report

06.09.2005

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patenttaan 2
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3018

Authorized officer

Cubas Alcaraz, J

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Int'l Application No
PCT/US2004/033194

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 5 449 383 A (CHATELIER ET AL) 12 September 1995 (1995-09-12) column 3, line 13 - line 25; claims 1-11 ----- A	1-10, 19-23, 38,39
	US 5 324 591 A (GEORGER, JR. ET AL) 28 June 1994 (1994-06-28) claims 1-20 -----	1-10, 19-23, 38,39

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

ntional application No.
PCT/US2004/033194

Box II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of Item 2 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. Claims Nos.: **23** because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
Although claims 23 is directed to a method of treatment of the human/animal body, the search has been carried out and based on the alleged effects of the compound/composition.
2. Claims Nos.: because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:
3. Claims Nos.: because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of Item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

see additional sheet

1. As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
2. As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

1-10, 19-23, 38, 39

Remark on Protest

The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
 No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

This International Searching Authority found multiple (groups of) inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. claims: 1-10,19-23,38,39

Surface suitable for the growth and attachment of cells comprising a biopolymer coated with diamond-like carbon.

2. claims: 11-14

Apparatus for detection of neural cell signals, comprising a biopolymer substrate having embedded or incorporated during its synthesis an attachment reagent.

3. claims: 15-18,24-28

A three dimensional medium suitable for supporting the growth of neural cells comprising a semi-solid biopolymer.

4. claims: 29-37

Laboratory apparatus having an internal coating suitable for inducing the growth and attachment of cells, wherein the coating is a film of diamond-like carbon.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Inte Application No
PCT/US2004/033194

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date		Patent family member(s)	Publication date
WO 9925396	A	27-05-1999	AU WO	1588099 A 9925396 A2	07-06-1999 27-05-1999
US 5449383	A	12-09-1995	NONE		
US 5324591	A	28-06-1994	US US US US EP US US US US	5077085 A 5079600 A 5510628 A 5721131 A 0506993 A1 5389496 A 5500315 A 5965305 A 5391463 A	31-12-1991 07-01-1992 23-04-1996 24-02-1998 07-10-1992 14-02-1995 19-03-1996 12-10-1999 21-02-1995